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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3629

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 09/659,915  
Filed: September 11, 2000  
Inventors:  
Thomas E. Saulpaugh  
Gregory L. Slaughter  
Eric Pouyoul  
Michael J. Duigou  
Title: Automatic Lease Renewal  
with Message Gates in a  
Distributed Computing  
Environment

§ Examiner: Fisher, Michael J.  
§ Group/Art Unit: 3629  
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-63600  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative

  
Signature

August 5, 2005  
Date

**RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION OF JUNE 7, 2005**

**Mail Stop AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of June 7, 2005, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.